



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT CENTER AND SCHOOL
AND FORT SAM HOUSTON
2250 STANLEY ROAD
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TX 78234-6100



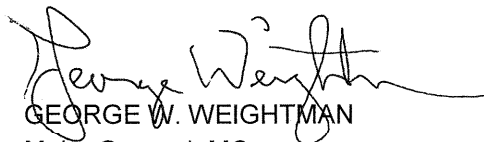
17 OCT 2005

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MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Cell Phone Usage While Operating a Motor Vehicle

1. Reference. Department of Defense Instruction 6055.4, Traffic Safety Program.
2. Vehicle accidents remain a leading cause of Army fatalities. An increasing number of these accidents are attributed to driver distractions, particularly cell phone use. Current research indicates that any kind of cell phone use, and the cognitive engagement needed, is what impairs a driver's decision-making ability.
3. Vehicle drivers will not use hand-held or hands-free communication devices such as cell phones, two-way radios, or electronic devices such as personal data assistants (PDAs) while driving a vehicle. Vehicle drivers will operate these devices only once the vehicle has been safely stopped and the vehicle placed in park. This policy applies to all military and civilian personnel who operate a privately owned motor vehicle, Government Owned vehicles, or Government Service Administration vehicles on FSH and Camp Bullis.
4. There will be two exceptions to this prohibition:
 - a. Emergency responders using cell phones and hand-held radios: military police, firefighters, emergency maintenance personnel, Public Works maintenance personnel, hazardous material handlers operating in immediate cleanup situations.
 - b. Safety/Emergency personnel using hand-held radios: Range safety personnel operating radios on active ranges.
5. The Provost Marshal's Office will have the authority to stop vehicle operators who fail to comply with this policy and issue a DD Form 1408, Armed Forces Traffic Citation.
6. Any activity a driver engages in, besides the task of driving, has the potential to distract. We must remind our drivers that their primary responsibility is to drive safely!


GEORGE W. WEIGHTMAN
Major General, MC
Commanding

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